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Taiwan

Grain and Feed

Taiwan's Public Sector Rice Tender Announcement 2002

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Report Highlights:

Taiwan authorities published the initial imported rice tender announcement on March 19, 2002. This report includes an unofficial translation of the announcement. The first tender will be for 24,000 tons.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Taipei [TW1], TW

Taiwan Publishes its 2002 Public Rice Tender Rules

On March 19, 2002, the Council of Agriculture announced the 2002 public sector tenders for imported rice. Taiwan plans to hold four to five tenders between March and December 2002.

The regulations will only allow domestic companies to act as importers. All bidders must be registered by the Council of Agriculture (COA) as food grain dealers in accordance with Taiwan's Food Management Law. Although rice and wheat importers and exporters are automatically eligible, traders in corn and soybeans must register with the COA Second Office before being allowed to participate in the tendering process.

Although the announcement allows for imports of China National Standard (CNS) #3 rice and above, it also specifically mentions imports of CNS #2 and #1 (higher quality) rices. COA officials noted that quality specifications will be set in each tender. According to the COA, Central Trust of China (CTC) will announce detailed tender procedures along with the first tender for 24,000 tons of brown rice in late March or early April. Post expects the tender to be for CNS #2 brown rice.

The total comment period for the announcement is eight days, including the five working days for "public reading" and an additional three working days for public comment.

An unofficial translation by post follows:

BEGIN TEXT:

Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan Announcement

18 March 2002

COA Document Number 0911120077

Subject: Announcement of 2002 Tenders for Government Rice Imports.

References: Taiwan's WTO accession agreement and Government Purchase Law.

Conditions:

1. Total imports: 94,068 MT on a brown rice basis.
2. Type of rice: brown or milled rice.
3. Quality specifications: China National Standard (CNS) #3 or higher (including CNS #1 and #2) with quality of each tender to be announced at time of purchase.
4. Purchase Process: To be handled by Central Trust of China procurement department.
5. Tender Quality and Frequency: There will be four to five tenders each of 10 – 35 thousand MT.
6. Purchase Period: March to December 2002.
7. Purchase Method: According to Section 1, Article 20 of the Government Procurement Law, the tenders will use a selective tender method.
8. First Tender Quantity: 24,000 MT brown rice equivalent.
9. First Tender Period: March to May 2002.
10. Qualified Importers: Domestic importers and exporters of grain (those who have within 5 years have

imported, exported or sold about 90,000 MT of grain (TRANSLATOR'S NOTE - grain by this definition includes rice, wheat, corn and soybeans - END NOTE) sourced from any country. This also includes companies that have imported or exported 36,000 MT in the same period under one contract). These companies should have a food grain (TRANSLATOR's NOTE - rice or wheat - END NOTE) business license (or should be a registered food grain dealer). These records are subject to verification.

11. Delivery: COA appointed warehouses.

12. Procedure:

- a. The tender's documentation will be available for public reading for 5 working days after publication.
- b. The comment period will be an additional three working days to include comments and suggestions from companies and the public. After that, the rules will be revised in response. The selective tender will be then be held 25 days later to choose qualified participants. After completing the selective tender, the list of qualified companies will be made public.
- c. According to the tender schedule, the government will notify the qualified companies to submit a sample and price bid.

CC: The announcement will also be available on COA website: www.coa.gov.tw

END TEXT